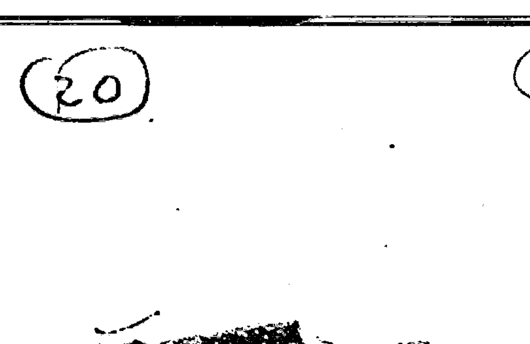
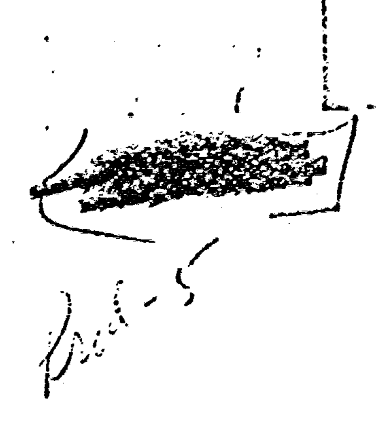
(20)





JUL 29 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director/Intelligence

SUBJECT: Recent Sightings of Unexplained Objects

In the past several weeks a number of radar and visual sightings of unidentified aerial objects have been reported. Although this office has maintained a continuing review of such reported sightings during the past three years, a special study group has been formed to review this subject to date. O/CI will participate in this study with O/SI and a report should be ready about 15 August.

RALPH L. CLARK
Acting Assistant Director
Scientific Intelligence

E-2

OSI:FOD:RLC/mtw (23July52)

Opns/SI - 3
AD/SI - 2

JUL 29 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director/Intelligence

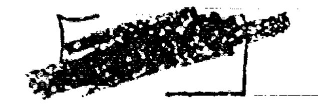
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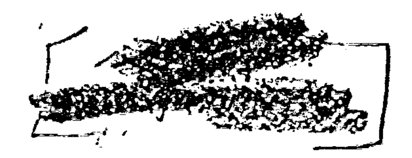
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Opns/SI - 3
AD/SI - 2


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20



DEC 2 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

THRU : Deputy Director for Intelligence

SUBJECT : Unidentified Flying Objects

1. On 20 August, the DCI, after a briefing by OSI on the above subject, directed the preparation of an NSCID for submission to the Council stating the need for investigation and directing agencies concerned to cooperate in such investigations.

2. In attempting to draft such a directive and the supporting staff studies, it became apparent to DD/I, Acting AD/SI and AD/IC that the problem was largely a research and development problem, and it was decided by DD/I to attempt to initiate action through RADB. A conference was held between DI/USAF, Chairman of RADB, DD/I, Acting AD/SI and AD/IC at which time it was decided that Dr. Whitman, Chairman of RADB, would investigate the possibility of undertaking research and development studies through Air Force agencies.

3. On approximately 6 November, we were advised by Chairman, RADB, that inquiries in the Air Staff did not disclose "undue concern" over this matter, but that it had been referred to the Air Defense Command for consideration. No further word has been received from RADB.

4. Recent reports reaching CIA indicated that further action was desirable and another briefing by the cognizant A-2 and ATIC personnel was held on 25 November. At this time, the reports of incidents convince us that there is something going on that must have immediate attention. The details of some of these incidents have been discussed by AD/SI with DDCI. Sightings of unexplained objects at great altitudes and travelling at high speeds in the vicinity of major U.S. defense installations are of such nature that they are not attributable to natural phenomena or known types of aerial vehicles.

5. OSI is proceeding to the establishment of a consulting group of sufficient competence and stature to review this matter and convince the responsible authorities in the community that immediate research and development on this subject must be undertaken. This can be done expeditiously under the aegis of CAMIS.





6. Attached hereto is a draft memorandum to the NSC and a simple draft NSC Directive establishing this matter as a priority project throughout the intelligence and the defense research and development community.

H. M. Chadwell · B-3

H. MARSHALL CHADWELL
Assistant Director
Scientific Intelligence

Attachments:
Draft memo to NSC with
draft Directive

Distribution:
Orig. & 1 - forward
1 - DD/I
2 - AD/SI





ER - 3 - 2803

MEMORANDUM TO: The Executive Secretary
National Security Council

SUBJECT: Unidentified Flying Objects (Flying Saucers)

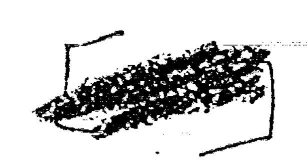
1. The Central Intelligence Agency has reviewed the current situation concerning unidentified flying objects which have caused extensive speculation in the press and have been the subject of concern to Government organizations. The Air Force, within the limitations of manpower which could be devoted to the subject, has thus far carried the full responsibility for investigating and analyzing individual reports of sightings. Since 1947, approximately 2000 official reports of sightings have been received and, of these, about 20% are as yet unexplained.

2. It is my view that this situation has possible implications for our national security which transcend the interests of a single service. A broader, coordinated effort should be initiated to develop a firm scientific understanding of the several phenomena which apparently are involved in these reports, and to assure ourselves that the incidents will not hamper our present efforts in the Cold War or confuse our early warning system in case of an attack.

3. I therefore recommend that this Agency and the agencies of the Department of Defense be directed to formulate and carry out a program of intelligence and research activities required to solve the problem of instant positive identification of unidentified flying objects. A draft of an appropriate directive is attached.

Walter B. Smith
Director

Enclosure







DRAFT

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL DIRECTIVE

SUBJECT: Unidentified flying objects

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 102 of the National Security Act of 1947 and for the purposes enunciated in Paragraphs d and e thereof, the National Security Council hereby authorizes and directs that:

1. The Director of Central Intelligence shall formulate and carry out a program of intelligence and research activities as required to solve the problem of instant positive identification of unidentified flying objects.

2. Upon call of the Director of Central Intelligence, Government departments and agencies shall provide assistance in this program of intelligence and research to the extent of their capacity provided, however, that the DCI shall avoid duplication of activities presently directed toward the solution of this problem.

3. This effort shall be coordinated with the military services and the Research and Development Board of the Department of Defense, with the Psychological Strategy Board and other Governmental agencies as appropriate.

4. The Director of Central Intelligence shall disseminate information concerning the program of intelligence and research activities in this field to the various departments and agencies which have authorized interest therein.

